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We have recently been awarded an EPA Environmental Education grant that includes the development of a website with a data portal based on technology that we developed for Anecdata.org. Anecdata is a novel citizen science data portal with which anyone can build a project and track observations, map sites, upload photos, or collect data on any number of things. We think that it will be helpful to citizens in the area of the Gold King mine release and in communities downstream.

I read that EPA already has community involvement coordinators on the ground out west and outreach and communication activities underway. We believe that offering citizens the opportunity to track, map, and document what they are seeing and experiencing using Anecdata.org will go a long way toward building good will between EPA and citizens and provide a conduit for shared information between communities and EPA. We are available to work with EPA officials to set up a customized project on Anecdata so that it can be shared with citizens as soon as possible.

We have contacted Gina McCarthy about this idea, but have not heard back. We thought you might be interested in promoting this concept. Let us know! We stand ready to help.

Contact Information

Full name:	<u>Disney, Jane</u>
Salutation:	Dear Dr. Disney
Default E-mail:	<u>jdisney@mdibl.org</u>
Phone Number:	(207) 288-9436
Cell Phone Number:	Personal Phone/Ex. 6

Address

Street:	PO Box 35 Old Bar Harbor Road
Zip:	04672-0035
City:	Salsbury Cove
County:	Hancock

State:
